

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas
House of Representatives



July 7, 2012

Friends,

Happy Independence Day! Many of you know my story. I was born in Taiwan and did not come to this country until I was an adult seeking a graduate education at the University of Texas at Dallas. I worked hard to become a citizen and I continue to work hard to give back to this great country that has given me so much. It is such a great privilege to be a citizen of this country because Americans value individual liberties and fight hard to protect the freedom to pursue our happiness. Thank you to all of those who have served in our armed forces for protecting this country so that we may live in freedom.

The Supreme Court of the United States

Arizona Immigration Law

Last Monday, the Supreme Court delivered a decision on Arizona's immigration law. The court unanimously sustained the law's centerpiece which requires state law enforcement officials to determine the immigration status of anyone they stop or arrest if they have reason to suspect that the individual might be in the country illegally. Provisions that created additional penalties and law impacting illegal immigrants were stricken. One such provision subjected illegal immigrants to criminal penalties for activities like seeking work.

The ruling sets ground rules for the immigration debate. With the knowledge of how the Supreme Court will rule on the constitutionality of these provisions, Texas can continue to move forward in creating responsible immigration policy.

Affordable Care Act

Last Thursday, The United States Supreme Court issued its much anticipated ruling on the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act.

Texas was one of the 26 states that sued to block the implementation of this law. With my full support, Attorney General Abbott fought to defend our state sovereignty and individual liberties. Ultimately, the Court did not strike down the key provision of the Affordable Care Act.

The health reform law also dramatically expands Medicaid, which already makes up close to a quarter of Texas' state budget, although the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government may not withhold Medicaid funds from states that reject the expansion and the money that comes with it.

Abbott said after the ruling that the justices' decision that "Congress does not have the authority to force states into the Medicaid expansions is a win for states' rights, and for Texas." He went on to state, "In the end, it was a victory, even though it was not the outcome we wanted."

What this means for Texas is a difficult question to answer at this stage but a decision must be made: move forward on the creation of a health care insurance exchange or let the Obama administration move on it for us possibly as soon as January. Additionally the state must decide to accept the funding for Medicaid expansion or turn it down.

My colleagues and I are working hard to fully examine the legislation, the court ruling, and to make the best decisions for our state to move forward. I invite your input on the matter as we proceed.

Around the District

June has been another great month in HD 112. I enjoyed attending the Reception and Installation Dinner for District Governor for Rotary International District 5810, Sandra Forester. Rotary International District 5810 includes the rotary clubs of North Texas. While I was there, I presented a memorial resolution to the family of Roger Jahnel. Roger Jahnel was a wonderful friend and successful businessman and entrepreneur in Garland. He played a leading role in the Garland Rotary Club, serving as president and board member, and was also a member of the Garland Chamber of Commerce and board member of the Achievement Center of North Texas. Below is a photo of me presenting the memorial resolution to his family. I was pleased to attend the 25th Annual Banquet of the Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce DFW. There were wonderful events held throughout HD 112 to celebrate our Nation's Independence. I hope everyone was able to enjoy themselves with family friends.



Representative Button presenting a memorial resolution to the family of Roger Jahnel at Rotary International District 5810 Governor's Installation Reception and Dinner. To the right of Representative Button: Judy Jahnel, Amy Jahnel, Julie Grimes, Roger Lee Davis-Jahnel, and Matthew Jahnel



Celebrating the 4th of July in Richardson with (from left to right) Richardson Councilman Scott Dunn, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Maczka, Congressman Pete Sessions, Councilman Kendal Hartley, and Mayor Bob Townsend.



Enjoying the 4th of July at the Sachse Red White and Blue Blast.



Another great time was had by all as the City of Rowlett came together to celebrate Independence Day.

Save the Date

4th Annual Senior Awareness Day

Saturday, August 4th 2012

9:00 AM - 12:00 noon

At:
The Atrium at the Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth Street
Garland, TX 75040

We hope you can join us for this free, fun, and informative event!

It is an honor to serve as your State Representative. Please let me know if I can ever be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Angie Chen Button

If you would like to be added or removed from this mailing, please e-mail
Angie.Button@house.state.tx.us.